United Nations A/RES/57/161

General Assembly

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28 January 2003

Fifty-seventh session
Agenda item 38

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/57/L.27/Rev.1 and Add.1)]

57/161. United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/223 of 24 December 2001, in which it decided to authorize the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala from 1 January to 31 December 2002,

Taking into account the fact that the Government of Guatemala has reaffirmed its commitment to the full implementation of the peace agreements,

Underlining the fact that substantive aspects of the peace agreements have yet to be implemented and that the Commission to Follow up the Implementation of the Peace Agreements has approved a new schedule for their implementation from 2000 until the end of 2004,

Taking into account the fact that the parties have requested the United Nations to support the consolidation of the peace-building process until 2003,[1]

Taking into account also the thirteenth report of the Mission on human rights,[2]

Taking into account further the seventh report of the Secretary-General on the verification of compliance with the peace agreements,[3]

Taking into account the report of the Commission for Historical Clarification,[4]

Stressing the positive role played by the Mission in support of the Guatemala peace process, and emphasizing the need for the Mission to continue to enjoy the full support of all parties concerned,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Mission[5] and the recommendations contained therein,

1. *Welcomes* the thirteenth report of the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala on human rights;[2]

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[1] See A/55/389, para. 9.
[2] A/57/336, annex.
[3] A/56/1003.
[4] A/53/928, annex.
[5] A/57/584.

2. *Also welcomes* the seventh report of the Secretary-General on the verification of compliance with the peace agreements;[3]

3. *Recalls* the report of the Commission for Historical Clarification[4] and the recommendations contained therein;

4. *Calls upon* the Government of Guatemala to fulfil its commitment to the full implementation of the peace agreements;

5. *Recalls* that the Commission to Follow up the Implementation of the Peace Agreements has rescheduled the pending commitments and included others not initially scheduled;

6. *Takes note* of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General[5] aimed at ensuring that the Mission can respond adequately to the demands of the peace process until 31 December 2003, as well as of his proposal for a further scaling down of the Mission in 2003;

7. *Takes note also* of the agreement reached by the parties regarding the importance of the continuing presence of the Mission in Guatemala until 2003;

8. *Takes note further* of the meeting of the Consultative Group for Guatemala, held in Washington, D.C., in February 2002, which provided new impetus for compliance with the peace agreements, and looks forward to the next Consultative Group meeting planned for the middle of 2003;

9. *Notes with satisfaction* the progress made in the implementation of the peace agreements in some areas, in particular significant legislative advances through the approval of a package of laws on decentralization and of a law criminalizing discrimination on the basis of gender, ethnicity and other criteria;

10. *Also notes with satisfaction* the election of a new Human Rights Ombudsman and a new Public Prosecutor, as well as steps taken to establish a professional judiciary;

11. *Underlines with concern* the fact that a number of key commitments remain outstanding in the areas of fiscal, judicial, military, electoral and land reform, as well as rural development and indigenous rights, and therefore urges that those commitments be implemented without further delay;

12. *Also underlines with concern* the budgetary constraints placed on institutions and programmes which are given priority under the peace process, while special budgetary transfers have been made to the armed forces, exceeding both budgetary allocations and targets of the peace agreements;

13. *Notes* that the consolidation of the peace-building process remains a significant challenge that requires a concerted national effort to guarantee the irreversibility of the peace process;

14. *Notes with concern* that the human rights situation has deteriorated, in particular the climate of intimidation has worsened amid an increase in threats and violence against judges, journalists and human rights defenders;

15. *Calls upon* the Government to implement fully the recommendations contained in the report of the Mission on human rights, in particular those related to the systematic impunity for crimes and human rights violations;

16. *Underlines* the importance of implementing fully the Agreement on Identity and Rights of Indigenous Peoples[6] as a key to fighting discrimination and consolidating peace and equality in Guatemala, and highlights the need to implement fully the Agreement on Social and Economic Aspects and Agrarian Situation[7] as a means of addressing the root causes of the armed conflict;

17. *Calls upon* the Government to implement the recommendations of the Commission for Historical Clarification, with a view to promoting national reconciliation, upholding the right to truth and providing redress for the victims of human rights abuses and violence committed during the thirty-six-year conflict, and calls upon the Guatemalan Congress to establish, as recommended, the Commission for Peace and Harmony;

18. *Welcomes* in this regard the recent agreement reached between the Government and civil society to establish a National Reparations Commission, and calls upon the Congress to adopt the draft law on the National Reparations Programme;

19. *Invites* the international community and, in particular, the agencies, programmes and funds of the United Nations, to continue to support the consolidation of the peace-building process, with the peace agreements as the framework for their technical and financial assistance programmes and projects, and stresses the continued importance of close cooperation among them in the context of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework for Guatemala;

20. *Urges* the international community to support financially, through existing mechanisms of international cooperation, the strengthening of national capacities to ensure the consolidation of the peace process in Guatemala;

21. *Also urges* the international community to support financially the strengthening of the capacities of the United Nations agencies and programmes, as the Mission will transfer some of its activities and projects to those agencies to support the national efforts to comply with the commitments of the peace agreements;

22. *Stresses* that the Mission has a key role to play in promoting the consolidation of peace and the observance of human rights and in verifying compliance with the revised timetable for the implementation of pending commitments under the peace agreements;

23. *Takes note* of the request of the Government of Guatemala for an extension of the mandate of the Mission until the end of 2004, taking into account the fact that the new Administration is scheduled to take office in January 2004;

24. *Notes* that civil society organizations and members of the international community have expressed concerns that voids will be created, particularly in the areas of human rights, indigenous rights, demilitarization and the strengthening of civil society, if the Mission departs Guatemala at the end of 2003, just as the new Government takes office and before it has been able to demonstrate its commitment to the peace process;

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[6] A/49/882-S/1995/256, annex.

[7] A/50/956, annex.

25. *Welcomes* the intention of the Secretary-General to initiate consultations with interested Member States regarding these requests and to keep the General Assembly apprised of progress in these talks;

26. *Decides* to authorize the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala from 1 January to 31 December 2003;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit, as early as possible, an updated report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, together with his recommendations regarding the best way to accompany Guatemala in its peace-building process beyond 31 December 2003;

28. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to keep the General Assembly fully informed of the implementation of the present resolution.

76th plenary meeting
16 December 2002

General Assembly

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Fifty-seventh session
Agenda item 168

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/57/L.58/Rev.1 and Add.1)]

57/162. International Year of Rice, 2004

The General Assembly,

Recalling resolution 2/2001 of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,[1]

Noting that rice is the staple food of more than half of the world's population,

Affirming the need to heighten awareness of the role of rice in alleviating poverty and malnutrition,

Reaffirming the need to focus world attention on the role that rice can play in providing food security and eradicating poverty in the attainment of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[2]

1. *Decides* to declare the year 2004 the International Year of Rice;

2. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to facilitate the implementation of the International Year of Rice, in collaboration with Governments, the United Nations Development Programme, Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research centres and other relevant organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations.

76th plenary meeting
16 December 2002

[1] See *Report of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Thirty-first Session, Rome, 2–13 November 2001* (C 2001/REP).

[2] See resolution 55/2.

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Agenda item 97

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/57/544)]

57/163. Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Recalling the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", held in Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,

Reaffirming that the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action[1] and the further initiatives for social development adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session[2] constitute the basic framework for the promotion of social development for all at the national and international levels,

Also recalling and reaffirming the commitments made at major United Nations conferences, special sessions, summit conferences and their follow-up processes, including, in this context, the recognition of the contributions of the outcomes of recent United Nations conferences and summits, such as the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002, the special session of the General Assembly on children, held in New York from 8 to 10 May 2002, and the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002, and the principles expressed in relevant United Nations declarations,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration[3] and the development goals contained therein,

Welcoming the outcome of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, held in Madrid from 8 to 12 April 2002, and stressing the importance of the implementation

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[1] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[2] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

[3] See resolution 55/2.

of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,[4] which focuses on three priority directions: older persons and development; advancing health and well-being into old age; and ensuring enabling and supportive environments,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the need for an integrated and coordinated follow-up to major United Nations conferences, special sessions and summits in the economic, social and related fields,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[5]

2. *Reaffirms* the commitments made by heads of State and Government at the World Summit for Social Development, contained in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action,[1] which established a new consensus to place people at the centre of the concerns for sustainable development and pledged to eradicate poverty, promote full and productive employment and foster social integration so as to achieve stable, safe and just societies for all;

3. *Also reaffirms* the decisions on further action and initiatives to accelerate social development for all, adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session and contained in the further initiatives for social development;[2]

4. *Recognizes* that many of the goals and commitments contained in the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly have been successfully incorporated in the outcomes of subsequent international conferences and summits, including those of the Millennium Assembly,[3] the International Conference on Financing for Development,[6] the Second World Assembly on Ageing[4] and the World Summit on Sustainable Development,[7] and that the integration of social development objectives in these many spheres demonstrates a continuing firm commitment to achieving the goals of the World Summit for Social Development;

5. *Calls* for the speedy implementation of the goals and commitments contained in the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly;

6. *Recognizes* that, while action taken to implement the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences, special sessions and summits in the economic, social and related fields held during the past ten years will further promote social development, strengthened and effective international and regional cooperation and assistance for development and progress towards increased participation, greater social justice and improved equity in societies will also be required;

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[4] *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8–12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[5] A/57/115.

[6] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[7] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolutions 1 and 2.

7. *Reaffirms* the need for effective partnership and cooperation between Governments and the relevant actors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations and the private sector, in the implementation of and follow-up to the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action and the further initiatives for social development, and the need to ensure their involvement in the planning, elaboration, implementation and evaluation of social policies at the national level;

8. *Invites* the Secretary-General, the Economic and Social Council, the Commission for Social Development, the regional commissions, the relevant specialized agencies, funds and the programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant intergovernmental forums, within their respective mandates, to continue to integrate into their work programmes and give priority attention to the commitments and undertakings contained in the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action and in the further initiatives for social development, to continue to be actively involved in their follow-up and to monitor the achievement of those commitments and undertakings;

9. *Welcomes* the contribution of the Commission for Social Development in the follow-up to and the review of the further implementation of the commitments made in Copenhagen and the further initiatives agreed upon in Geneva, reaffirms that the Commission will continue to have the primary responsibility in this regard, and encourages Governments, the relevant specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and civil society to continue to support its work;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly", and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on this question to the General Assembly at that session, taking into account, among other things, the need for an integrated and coordinated follow-up to all major United Nations conferences, special sessions and summits.

77th plenary meeting
18 December 2002

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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/57/545)]

57/164. Preparations for and observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/82 of 8 December 1989, 46/92 of 16 December 1991, 47/237 of 20 September 1993, 50/142 of 21 December 1995, 52/81 of 12 December 1997, 54/124 of 17 December 1999 and 56/113 of 19 December 2001 concerning the proclamation, preparations for and observance of the International Year of the Family and its tenth anniversary,

Recognizing that the follow-up to the International Year of the Family is an integral part of the agenda and of the multi-year programme of work of the Commission for Social Development until 2004,

Noting that the family-related provisions of the outcomes of the United Nations summits and conferences of the 1990s and their follow-up processes continue to provide policy guidance on ways to strengthen family-centred components of policies and programmes as part of an integrated comprehensive approach to development,

Recalling that relevant United Nations instruments on human rights as well as relevant global plans and programmes of action call for the widest possible protection and assistance to be accorded to the family, bearing in mind that, in different cultural, political and social systems, various forms of the family exist,

Emphasizing that equality between women and men and respect for the human rights of all family members is essential to family well-being and to society at large, and noting the importance of reconciliation of work and family life,

Aware that families are affected by social and economic changes manifested as observable worldwide trends and that the causes and consequences of those trends concerning families have to be identified and analysed,

Recognizing the important role of non-governmental organizations, at both the local and the national levels, working in the interest of families,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the preparations for the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family in 2004,[1]

[1] A/57/139 and Corr.1.

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[1] and the recommendations contained therein;

2. *Reaffirms its invitation* to all States to take prompt action to establish national mechanisms, as appropriate, to prepare for, observe and follow up the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family, in particular for the purpose of planning, stimulating and harmonizing the activities of the governmental and non-governmental agencies and organizations concerned with the preparations for and observance of the tenth anniversary, and to cooperate with the Secretary-General in achieving the objectives of the tenth anniversary;

3. *Calls upon* all United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, the regional commissions and the intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, in particular family-related organizations, to make every possible effort towards the implementation of the objectives of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family by integrating the family perspective into the planning and decision-making processes;

4. *Decides* that the major activities for the observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family should be concentrated at the local, national and regional levels and that the United Nations system should assist Governments in these efforts;

5. *Takes note* of the major study on the most important trends affecting families, to be submitted to the General Assembly at the commencement of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family in December 2003;

6. *Calls* for a concerted promotional, informational and media campaign on the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family at the national, regional and international levels;

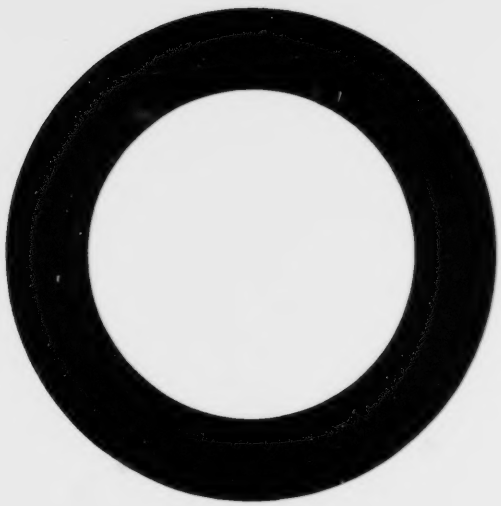
7. *Invites* the Secretary-General to launch the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family early in December 2003;

8. *Decides* to devote one plenary meeting at its fifty-ninth session, in 2004, to the observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family, building upon the events to be held on 15 May 2004 on the occasion of the International Day of Families;

9. *Invites* the Secretary-General to continue to play an active role in facilitating international cooperation within the framework of the follow-up to the International Year of the Family, to facilitate the exchange of experience and information among Governments on effective policies and strategies, to facilitate technical assistance, with a focus on the least developed and developing countries, and to encourage the organization of subregional and interregional meetings and relevant research;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session through the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council on the preparations for the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family at all levels.

77th plenary meeting
18 December 2002



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Agenda item 98

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/57/545)]

57/165. Promoting youth employment

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the resolve of heads of State and Government, as contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] to develop and implement strategies that give young people everywhere a real chance to find decent and productive work,

Recalling and reaffirming the commitments relating to youth employment made at the major United Nations conferences and summits since 1990 and their follow-up processes,

Recalling its resolution 54/120 of 17 December 1999, in which it took note with appreciation of the Lisbon Declaration on Youth Policies and Programmes adopted at the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth in 1998,[2] which set forth important commitments regarding youth employment,

Recalling also its resolution 56/117 of 19 December 2001, in which, inter alia, it welcomed the Secretary-General's initiative to create a Youth Employment Network and invited him to continue with initiatives in that regard,

Recognizing that young people are an asset for sustainable economic growth and social development, and expressing deep concern about the magnitude of youth unemployment and underemployment throughout the world and its profound implications for the future of our societies,

Recognizing also that Governments have a primary responsibility to educate young people and to create an enabling environment that will promote youth employment,

1. *Takes note* of the work of the High-level Panel of the Secretary-General's Youth Employment Network and its policy recommendations;[3]

2. *Encourages* Member States to prepare national reviews and action plans on youth employment and to involve youth organizations and young people in this process, taking into account, inter alia, the commitments made by Member States in

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[1] See resolution 55/2.

[2] See WCMRY/1998/28, chap. I, resolution 1.

[3] See A/56/422.

this regard, in particular those included in the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond;[1]

3. *Invites*, within the context of the Youth Employment Network, the International Labour Organization, in collaboration with the Secretariat and the World Bank and other relevant specialized agencies, to assist and support, upon request, the efforts of Governments in the elaboration of national reviews and action plans, and to undertake a global analysis and evaluation of progress made in this regard;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution, including on the progress achieved by the Youth Employment Network.

77th plenary meeting
18 December 2002

[1] Resolution 50/81, annex.

United Nations A/RES/57/166

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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/57/545)*]

57/166. United Nations Literacy Decade: education for all

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/116 of 19 December 2001, by which it proclaimed the ten-year period beginning on 1 January 2003 the United Nations Literacy Decade,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] in which Member States resolved to ensure that, by the year 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling and that girls and boys will have equal access to all levels of education, which requires a renewed commitment to promote literacy for all,

Reaffirming that a basic education is crucial to nation-building, that literacy for all is at the heart of basic education for all and that creating literate environments and societies is essential for achieving the goals of eradicating poverty, reducing child mortality, curbing population growth, achieving gender equality and ensuring sustainable development, peace and democracy,

Convinced that literacy is crucial to the acquisition, by every child, youth and adult, of the essential life skills that enable them to address the challenges they can face in life, and represents an essential step in basic education, which is an indispensable means for effective participation in the societies and economies of the twenty-first century,

Affirming that the realization of the right to education, especially for girls, contributes to the eradication of poverty,

Deeply concerned about the persistence of the gender gap in education, which is reflected by the fact that nearly two thirds of the world's adult illiterates are women,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on an international plan of action for the United Nations Literacy Decade;[2]

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[1] See resolution 55/2.

[2] See A/57/218 and Corr.1.

2. *Welcomes* the International Plan of Action for the United Nations Literacy Decade;

3. *Appeals* to all Governments to reinforce political will, mobilize adequate national resources, develop more inclusive policy-making environments and devise innovative strategies for reaching the poorest and most marginalized groups and for seeking alternative formal and non-formal approaches to learning with a view to achieving the goals of the Decade;

4. *Urges* all Governments to take the lead in coordinating the activities of the Decade at the national level, bringing all relevant national actors together in a sustained dialogue on policy formulation, implementation and evaluation of literacy efforts;

5. *Appeals* to all Governments and professional organizations to strengthen national and professional educational institutions in their countries with a view to expanding their capacity and promoting the quality of education;

6. *Appeals* to all Governments and to economic and financial organizations and institutions, both national and international, to lend greater financial and material support to the efforts to increase literacy and achieve the goals of education for all and those of the Decade, through, inter alia, the 20/20 initiative,[1] as appropriate;

7. *Invites* Member States, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to intensify their efforts to implement effectively the International Plan of Action;

8. *Decides* that the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization should take a coordinating role in stimulating and catalysing the activities undertaken at the international level within the framework of the Decade in a manner that is complementary to and coordinated with the ongoing process of education for all;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to prepare a report on the implementation of the International Plan of Action for submission to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session, under the item entitled "Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family", a sub-item entitled "United Nations Literacy Decade: education for all".

77th plenary meeting
18 December 2002

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[1] See *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II, para. 88 (c).

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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/57/546)]

57/167. Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/24 of 10 November 1999, 54/262 of 25 May 2000, 56/118 of 19 December 2001 and 56/228 of 24 December 2001,

Reaffirming the principles and recommendations of the International Plan of Action on Ageing,[1] which it endorsed in its resolution 37/51 of 3 December 1982, and the United Nations Principles for Older Persons, adopted by the General Assembly in 1991,[2] which provided guidance in areas of independence, participation, care, self-fulfilment and dignity,

Having considered the report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, held in Madrid from 8 to 12 April 2002,[3]

Expressing its profound gratitude to the Government and the people of Spain for hosting the World Assembly and for the hospitality extended to all participants,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing;[3]

2. *Endorses* the Political Declaration and the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002, adopted by consensus by the Second World Assembly on Ageing on 12 April 2002;[4]

3. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[5]

4. *Calls upon* Governments, the United Nations system and all other actors to take the necessary steps to implement the Madrid Plan of Action;

5. *Recognizes* that the evolving process of global ageing requires actions at all levels on the three priority directions in the Madrid Plan of Action, namely, older

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[1] See *Report of the World Assembly on Ageing, Vienna, 26 July–6 August 1982* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.I.16), chap. VI, sect. A.

[2] Resolution 46/91, annex.

[3] *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8–12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4).

[4] Ibid., chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[5] A/57/93.

persons and development, advancing health and well-being into old age, and ensuring enabling and supportive environments;

6. *Affirms* the aim of the Madrid Plan of Action, which is to ensure that persons everywhere are able to age with security and dignity and to continue to participate in their societies as citizens with full rights;

7. *Recognizes* that progress made in the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action should be contingent upon effective partnership among Governments, all parts of civil society and the private sector, as well as an enabling environment based, inter alia, on democracy, the rule of law, respect for all human rights, fundamental freedoms and good governance at all levels, including the national and international levels;

8. *Reaffirms* that enhanced international cooperation is an essential complement to national efforts to implement fully the Madrid Plan of Action, and therefore encourages the international community further to promote cooperation among all actors involved;

9. *Invites* international financial institutions and regional development banks to examine and adjust their lending and grants practices so as to ensure that older persons are recognized as a development resource and are taken into account in their policies and projects as part of efforts to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition in the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action;

10. *Welcomes* the active participation of civil society, the private sector and other relevant actors in the Second World Assembly on Ageing and their support for the implementation of the Political Declaration and the Madrid Plan of Action, as well as the contributions made through parallel events organized by the Government of Spain, and urges relevant actors to continue research efforts in support of the Plan;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider the necessary measures to improve the institutional capacity of the United Nations system to fulfil its responsibilities for the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, including, inter alia, the maintenance and strengthening of focal points on ageing in the light of the range of tasks called for in the Plan;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in the context of the preparation of the programme budget for the biennium 2004–2005, to allocate sufficient human and financial resources to the Programme on Ageing of the Division for Social Policy and Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat so as to make it possible for the Programme efficiently and effectively to fulfil its task as the United Nations focal point on ageing and to facilitate and promote the Madrid Plan of Action by, inter alia, designing guidelines for policy development and implementation and advocating means to mainstream ageing issues into development agendas;

13. *Welcomes* the initiatives of the regional commissions to review the objectives and recommendations of the Madrid Plan of Action, with a view of translating it into regional plans of action, and to assist national institutions, upon request, in implementing and monitoring their actions on ageing;

14. *Invites* the Commission for Social Development, as the entity responsible for the follow-up to and appraisal of the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, to consider integrating the different dimensions of population ageing as

contained in the Plan in its work and to consider the modalities for reviews and appraisals at its forty-first session in 2003;

15. *Welcomes* the preparation of a road map for the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action by the Programme on Ageing, and invites all relevant actors to contribute to its preparation;

16. *Urges* all Member States and other actors to contribute generously to the United Nations Trust Fund for Ageing and to support activities undertaken in follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing, including technical cooperation to promote the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to disseminate the Political Declaration and the Madrid Plan of Action as widely as possible, including among all relevant organs of the United Nations system;

18. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

77th plenary meeting
18 December 2002

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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/57/547)*]

57/168. International cooperation in the fight against transnational organized crime: assistance to States in capacity-building with a view to facilitating the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000, by which it adopted the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and its resolution 55/255 of 31 May 2001, by which it adopted the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,

Recalling also its resolution 56/120 of 19 December 2001, in which it requested the Secretary-General to provide the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office on Drugs and Crime[1] of the Secretariat with the resources necessary to enable it to promote, in an effective manner, the entry into force and implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto and encouraged Member States to make adequate voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, in accordance with article 30 of the Convention, for the provision of technical assistance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition for the implementation of those international legal instruments,

Reaffirming its deep concern over the impact of transnational organized crime on the political, social and economic stability and development of societies,

Reaffirming that the adoption of the Convention and the Protocols thereto is a significant development in international criminal law and that they constitute

[1] Formerly known as the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention.

important instruments for effective international cooperation against transnational organized crime,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on promoting the ratification of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto;[2]

2. *Welcomes* the fact that a number of States have already ratified the Convention and the Protocols thereto, and reiterates the importance of ensuring the speedy entry into force of those instruments in accordance with its resolutions 55/25 and 55/255;

3. *Commends* the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office on Drugs and Crime of the Secretariat for its work in promoting the ratification of the Convention and the Protocols thereto;

4. *Welcomes* the proposed action by the Centre, described in the report of the Secretary-General, to promote the early entry into force and implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto;

5. *Also welcomes* the financial support provided by several donors to promote the entry into force and implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, and further encourages Member States to make sufficient voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund for the provision of technical assistance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition for the implementation of those international legal instruments;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Centre with the resources necessary to enable it to promote, in an effective manner, the entry into force and implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the present resolution in his report on the work of the Centre to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session.

77th plenary meeting
18 December 2002

[2] E/CN.15/2002/10.